

Rostrum Club 15

Tall Stories Competition - Rules

Aim:

- a. To provide a forum for speakers to practice and demonstrate their public speaking abilities.
- b. To provide an opportunity to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have benefited from public speaking training.
- c. To recognize the value of humour in speaking as well as a touch of the outrageous.
- d. To promote fellowship amongst Rostrum Clubs and public speakers.

Eligibility:

- e. All Rostrum WA Members who are currently in good standing with a club and other speakers are eligible to compete by invitation of Host Club 15.
- f. A Rostrum Speaker who is a member in good standing with more than one club may only represent one club.

Speech Preparation:

- g. Each contestant shall select his/her own speech for the contest.
- h. The speaker should avoid objectionable language and material.
- i. The speech must be thematic in nature containing opening, body and close.

Speech Timing:

- j. All speeches shall be not less than five or more than six minutes.
- k. Time will commence from the first word uttered by the contestant; however, should the contestant engage in definite verbal or non verbal communication with the audience (music, sound effects, a staged act by another person etc.) prior to reaching the speaking position and uttering the first word or sound of the speech, the timer shall activate the timing device at once.
- l. The speech will start with a green light, which will be replaced at five minutes by an amber warning light that in turn will be replaced at six minutes with a red light that will remain on until the speaker has concluded his/her speech.
- m. All judging will cease when the red light is turned on.

General Contest Procedure:

- n. A Contestant Chairman, Chief Judge and at least two Judges, and two timekeepers shall be appointed.
- o. The Chairman or as his nominee the President of Rostrum Club 15 shall be the tie breaker Judge in the event a tie occurs.
- p. A draw shall be conducted to determine the speaking order.
- q. Contestants shall be briefed by the contest Chairman before the contest and draw of the speaking order.
- r. The Chief Judge shall brief all officials and contestants. If a contestant is absent from the briefing and is not present for the contest to begin he/she shall be disqualified from the contest.
- s. The Judges' decision will be final.

Judging Criteria:

- t. Intellectual:
Material; scope, clarity, logic, accuracy, relevance, adequacy.
Arrangement - introduction, body, conclusion, construction, evidence of research.
Appeal - imagination, illustrations, highlights, wit, words, sentences, grammar, word pictures, figures of speech.
- u. Emotional:
Visual impact; appearance, gesture, use of eyes, visual aid, notes.
Vocal impact; quality, clarity, variety, pitch, pause, pace, pronunciation, volume.
Empathy; contact, understanding, acceptance, audience involvement, humour.